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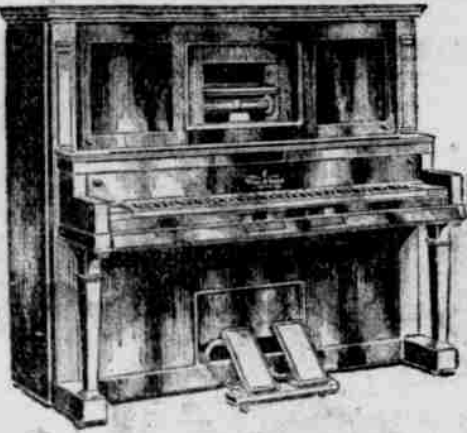
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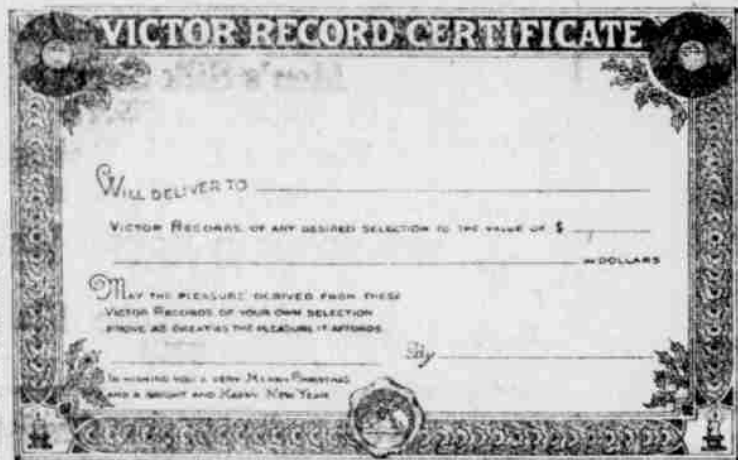
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## CONFERENCE GAINS IN IMPORTANCE

Premiers Lloyd George and Clemenceau Believed to Be Discussing Financial Scheme.

LONDON, Dec. 12. — Unusual importance is attached to the conference held at Premier Lloyd George's residence today attended by Premier Clemenceau of France, Foreign Minister Scialoja of Italy, and other British and allied representatives of prominence. The general belief in diplomatic quarters was that the conference was for the purpose of discussing the proposed allied loan to Austria and the subject of the pact between France and Great Britain to guarantee France against unwarranted attacks into which agreement it was originally expected the United States would enter. Up to mid-afternoon no official announcement had been made regarding the work or the purpose of the conference. International finance was under discussion this morning. J. A. Chamberlain, chancellor of the exchequer, being called into the meeting after cancelling a speaking engagement he had for today. John M. Davis, the American ambassador, and the representatives of Italy now in London, joined in the conference later. They remained until the conference adjourned for luncheon.

### COUNCIL HAS TURKEY DINNER.

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and then Joseph F. Austin of the navy was called upon. He said the doughboys had the reputation of being long on oats, but he thought the gobs were not far behind. He expressed the appreciation of the sailors for what the people at home did for them. Hermon V. Brooks, representing the army, stated that the dinner was an exemplification of the spirit at home that was back of the boys and followed them into the service.

Attention was called by the chairman to the honor roll and to the two gold stars which it contained, whereupon the company stood with bowed heads while the chaplain, Rev. Father James P. Rand, offered prayer, followed by the sounding of taps by the cornet.

Adjournment was then taken to the assembly room, where almond bars and chewing gum were given to all and where, at 8.15, after orchestral numbers and a stanza of The Star Spangled Banner, Chairman Austin presented Mr. Chapman as the speaker of the evening.

The room was crowded when Mr. Chapman arose, and he was given a warm welcome. He opened his address with a few pleasantries which were greatly enjoyed, and then launched into a story of experiences as war secretary overseas that stirred the emotions as few war speakers have been able to do. He formerly was an actor, at one time visiting Brattleboro, and his dramatic ability acquired in the profession intensified his story. The sentiment of the audience was manifested in continued applause as he finished his address.

The speaker referred to the fact that the Vermont Knights were pioneers in establishing service camps, their camp at Fort Ethan Allen being the first in the war. He told of the heroic sacrifice of women, both here and overseas, speaking in particular of a Red Cross nurse who is walking about in a plaster cast in her home in Cambridge, Mass. She was holding an artery in a man's arm during an operation for amputation in a hospital in France when the lights went out because of the approach of German airplanes. A shell struck the hospital, killing two wounded soldiers, other shells exploded near and there was general confusion in the darkness, during which time a fire was started but which was extinguished by those able to get about, including the secretary. Seven minutes elapsed before the planes went away and the lights were turned on, and the nurse was found still holding to the artery to prevent the soldier bleeding to death. She called to the doctor stating that she could not hold out much longer, and when she was relieved she fell to the floor and it was found that the first shell tore away part of her spine and that she had been standing in a pool of her own blood. The soldier, now in Dorchester, Mass., is a well boy.

On one occasion a company of 200 American women going overseas for duty declined a proposition of a German naval commander that they go to Kiel to entertain German officers, choosing death instead, whereupon the Germans sank the ship deliberately and 67 of the noble women went down, the others fortunately being rescued.

The speaker told with great fervor of the work of the 4,000 United States marines who temporarily stopped the German advance at Belleau Wood, only 600 of them coming out alive, which was one of the most notable achievements of the war. He was given tremendous applause when he stated that whatever European history might say of the war one great factor was incontrovertible, which was that when Paris seemed about to fall, whose capture would mean the conquering of France and England, only one fighting unit stood between the city and the Germans at Chateau Thierry, and that was the 26th division.

At one time, after an American division had marched 60 hours and had been engaged in battle on the front lines for six hours, three priests bathed with their own hands and redressed 2,000 soldiers, both Catholics and Protestants, in the rear lines and thanked God for the privilege of ministering to them without regard to religion or creed.

Mr. Chapman denied that the doughboys misbehaved themselves in Paris and assured the parents and others present that the visits of the soldiers to the city were for the purposes of sight-seeing and the inspiration of religious worship.

These are but a few of the facts brought out by the speaker, and he closed by reciting an original poem, The Knights of Columbus Were There, in a dramatic and stirring fashion.

The committee in charge of the welcome home night consisted of Daniel F. Riley, chairman, Charles F. Mann, Daniel J. Stolle and Martin Austin.

The dinner committee consisted of Mrs. H. B. Hans, Mrs. W. D. Lenihan and Mrs. J. J. Austin.

The honor roll of Leo council, printed on the menu folder, contains the following names:

Army—John W. Aher, Joseph A. Aher, Thomas A. Austin, Herman V. Brooks, William A. Brooks, James H. Burke, William F. Blake, John W. Blake, Joseph H. Brouillette, Edward Cavanaugh,

James T. Denning, Edward Duggan, Bernard H. Dunlevy, Francis A. Dunlevy, Joseph F. Fleming, Elias T. Foley, Charles H. Goodwin, Louis Hanley, Bernard H. Haus, Edmond J. Haus, Daniel T. Hayes, Louis B. Kaine, Joseph P. Kaine (died in Johnson, Sask., Nov. 10, 1919), John J. Kennedy, Thomas M. Lynch, Daniel P. Lillis, Michael F. Morrissey, Ernest L. Nolin, George F. O'Connor, Albert Paquette, George P. Ratte, Alphonse C. Ratte, Louis L. Ratte, Thomas Rice, M. D. Arthur J. Rolin, Harold A. Shea, Albert H. Thompson, Joseph Yarker (died in France Oct. 13, 1918).

Navy—Joseph F. Austin, John M. Baker, William P. Baker, Herman F. Nolin.

K. of C. secretary—Joseph A. Eckels, U. S. M. C.—Clifford Ratte.

During the evening an honor roll, framed, was hung in the council rooms with 44 names handsomely engrossed by Alvah H. Benedict. The names of five are of those received as members of the council since the armistice was signed.

### COAL OPERATORS PROTEST.

(Continued from 1st Page)

place." The public under the form of settlement adopted may be subjected again at any time to the discomfort and distress through which it is now passing, it was added.

### Increased Coal Production.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—General increase in production of bituminous coal today was indicated by reports from nearly all coal fields. In a few sections, principally Illinois, however, some of the workers were in rebellion against the terms of President Wilson's proposal and in Montana, Washington and Wyoming the miners indicated they desired a more thorough understanding of the plans.

Other instances of deferred resumption of production were expected in the Pittsburgh district, where union leaders continued officially to notify miners to return to work and in West Virginia, where new trouble was encountered because of the old question of the "check off" system, but the situation generally was regarded with optimism.

There were many predictions of a return to normal output by early next week. Another cold wave was reported forming in the northwest and moving eastward. It was believed, however, that most sections would be fortified against it by a renewal of coal supplies. In the central competitive field where there was little output yesterday an overwhelming sentiment in favor of a quick return to work was indicated in reports of union leaders.

The first woman compositor ever employed in the government printing office in Washington was a Miss Green, of Alliance, O., who went to work in 1870.

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